

that native assistants should have a thorough Bible education. They are constantly brought in contact with subtle, far-sighted reasoners, and if their arguments prove weak or indefensible, the cause of Christ suffers in their hands. I hope our dear friends in America will not be discouraged because the work goes on so slowly. Often, I have felt very much distressed in view of the difficulties to be overcome; the stern, jealous character of the government; the influence of the priesthood; the blind attachments of the people to ancient customs, and above all the dark, fearful depravity which reigns among all classes and ranks. The depths of sin can be understood, only by an intimate acquaintance with the heathen. However, we must not despair of pulling down every strong hold, and of being able to carry the gospel triumphantly over the whole world.

#### From the National Gazette. TEXAS INSURRECTION.

##### The origin and true causes of it.

I have stated that "a vast combination was entered into, (though not formally organized,) having in view the re-establishment of slavery in the Texas country, &c." I might rest the assertion on the evidence already adduced in proof of this; but in order to illustrate it more clearly, I will ask the reader's attention to a few more facts and observations connected with the subject.

This design was openly manifested a short time after the settlement of the famous "Missouri Question" by which it was decided that slavery should never be extended to any portion of the territory of the United States, above the line of thirty six degrees and thirty minutes of North latitude. When the treaty, defining the Western boundary of Louisiana, was ratified by our government, many of our citizens were dissatisfied, because the Texas country was not included within its limits. To some of these, the question of slavery in that region did not probably then occur; but soon after the colonization commenced under Austin, it became a subject of general conversation and newspaper remark, in the Southern States. All the writers for the papers, at that period, contemplated the annexation of the territory to that of the United States. Among the first who publicly advocated the measure, particularly with reference to the extension of the system of slavery, were the writers of two or more series of essays, originally published at St. Louis, in Missouri, over the signature of "Americanus" and "La Salle." These essays were attributed to the pen of the Hon. T. H. Benton, now a Senator in the Congress of the United States. To give the reader a correct idea of their drift, and the manner in which the doctrines they inculcated were received in different parts of the Union, I submit a few extracts from sundry publications, issued soon after they made their appearance. It may be proper, however, to premise, that our government, (then completely under the interest of the slave-holding interest,) was endeavoring to obtain a cession of the territory in question, and that it was at the period of the last invasion of Mexico by the armies of Spain. The first quotation which I shall make, is from a paper said to be the under the control of the present Gov. McDuffie of S. Carolina.

##### From the Edgefield (S. C.) Carolinian.

"The acquisition of Texas, relinquished by the government of the United States to the magnanimous Ferdinand VII. by the Florida treaty of 1819, is now a subject of much interest in the western states. This valuable territory has now devolved on the republic of Mexico, and from the condition of that country, suffering under invasion and civil war, and with scanty finances, it is supposed that the retrocession might be obtained for a reasonable equivalent. Great confidence is expressed that the administration will embrace the present favorable opportunity, for regaining an extensive and fertile region of country, within the natural limits of the United States. Some imposing essays, originally published in the St. Louis Beacon, with the signature of 'Americanus,' and attributed to Col. Benton, of the Senate, explaining the circumstances of the treaty of 1819, and displaying the advantages of the retrocession, have operated upon the public mind in the West with electric force and rapidity. The writer produces strong circumstantial proof that the surrender of Texas resulted from the subversion of our negotiator to Spain, in her contest with Mexico, together with the powerful subsidizing motive of hostility to the Southern and Western sections of our country.

"This large fragment of the Mississippi valley, affording sufficient territory for four or five slave-holding States, was unconsciously sacrificed with scarcely a pretext of a demand for it on the part of Spain. The time of the negotiation was during the heat of the debate on the Missouri question—the place was Washington, whether the negotiation had been unnecessarily removed, while it was proceeding prosperously at Madrid, and where the restrictions were then assembled in all their strength, and the negotiator was Mr. Adams, the friend and associate of the most thorough-going among those restrictionists. 'Americanus' exposes the evils to the United States of this surrender, under twelve distinct heads. Two of them, of particular interest to this section of the country, are, that it brings a non-slave-holding empire in juxtaposition with the slave-holding south-west, and diminishes the outlet for the Indians inhabiting the States of Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee.

##### From the Charleston (S. C.) Mercury.

"It is not improbable that the President

Jackson] is now examining the propriety and practicability of a retrocession of the vast territory of Texas, an enterprise loudly demanded by the welfare of the West, and which could not fail to exercise an important and favorable influence upon the future destinies of the South, by increasing the votes of the slaveholding States in the U. S. Senate."

##### From the Nashville Banner.

"The Mexicans, steeped to the lips in poverty, threatened with a powerful invasion by the mother country, will part with this property or any thing else for the sake of money. Now is the time and this is the hour to strike for our country's weal.

"I believe President Jackson has a listening, attentive ear. It is said that he would as soon scan the opinions of a corporal as those of a major-general, and that he would with equal readiness adopt or reject either, as his judgment might determine. Believing this to be the case, I venture to make the above suggestion, with the addition, that there is not one moment to be lost."

##### From the Arkansas Gazette, 1830.

"PURCHASE OF TEXAS. As the subject of the purchase of Texas has engrossed much of the attention of our politicians for a year or two past, it may not perhaps be improper to state that we are in possession of information, derived from a source entitled to the highest credit, which destroys all hope of a speedy acquisition of that country by the United States. Col. Butler, the Charge d'Affaires of the United States to Mexico, was specially authorized by the President to treat with that government for the purchase of Texas. The present predominant party are decidedly opposed to the ceding of any portion of its territory. [The writer might have added, and so are all parties.] No hopes need therefore be entertained of our acquiring Texas until some other party more friendly to the United States than the present shall predominate in Mexico, and perhaps [the italics are the editor's] not until the people of Texas shall throw off the yoke of allegiance to that government, which they will do, no doubt, so soon as they shall have a reasonable pretext for doing so." At present they are probably subject to as few exactions and impositions as any people under the sun."

Were it necessary, I could make many other extracts of similar character and import with the above; but I will, at present, only direct the attention of the reader to a few more, from papers opposed to the scheme, and by whom its existence is admitted and censured.

##### From the N. Y. Daily Advertiser.

"If Texas should be added to the United States, it is not an extravagant supposition that there may in process of time be twelve or fifteen additional slave states incorporated into the Union."

"If, then, the free states do not intend to surrender themselves at discretion; if they do not feel inclined to yield up their weight and influence in the national affairs; if they are not disposed to become tributary to the slave states, and see all the wealth and energy of the republic placed under the sovereign control and disposal of these states, it is incumbent on them to watch this project with the deepest solicitude and care, and to check at the onset every effort for the accomplishment of such a wild and perilous undertaking."

##### From the Pennsylvania Gaz. Sept. 1829.

"The acquisition of Texas promises to be a leading measure of the present administration, and without doubt one of great magnitude and importance. This will be very apparent from the fact, as stated, that the territory in question will make nine states as large as Kentucky, to which add the appalling consideration, that it is designed to make these nine states, slave states. We are told also that 'the proper steps have been taken to procure the cession.' It is high time, therefore, for the northern interest, the non-slave-holding states, to look around, to see how the balance of power, which it was the object of the Federal Constitution to create and preserve, will be effected by this bold undertaking. We are much pleased by the following remarks of the New-York American:—

##### From the American.

"The Richmond Enquirer, with one of its hints, which is meant to signify a great deal, says, 'The statesmen who are at the head of our affairs, are not the men we take them to be, if they have not already pursued the proper steps for obtaining the cession of Texas, even before the able numbers of 'Americanus' saw the light. But *sous verrous*!'

"We are therefore to understand that measures are already in train for the recovery of Texas. 'The able numbers of Americanus' put the importance of this recovery to southern men and southern interests, on the ground of the space and advantages which that country will afford for 'the future existence of slave states.' Within this boundary of Texas, 'nine states,' says Americanus, 'as large as Kentucky, may be formed.'

"When the great, and we do not hesitate to say, unjust preponderance of the slave states in the existing confederacy is considered, it may well cause the inhabitants of the free states to pause and consider the effect upon our institutions and Union, of the increase, by the half dozen, of these states, bound together by one common bond of peril, of profit, and of political power. The moral considerations, too, which belong to the subject, connected with the new and vast market, that this province would open to the domestic slave trade, not less atrocious in principle, if somewhat milder in practice, than that which on the coast of Africa is denounced

as 'piracy,' and punished with death, will not fail to present themselves with force to the minds of all considerate men."

##### From the Boston Palladium, 1829.

"The 'Political Gridiron,' a Louisiana paper, is seeking to embroil Texas. The United States troops, it says, should take possession of Texas without delay; and if General Houston has gone to that country, as is asserted, for the purpose of revolutionizing it, we may expect to hear shortly of his raising his flag."

In addition to the writings of various editors of newspapers and their correspondents, we might enumerate the speeches of distinguished political orators, members of legislative bodies, &c., tending to show the general anxiety of the people in our southern states for the acquisition of Texas, and the certain calculations they made on the establishment and perpetuation of slavery therein. I will, however, quote a few remarks from only one or two. In the Virginia Convention of 1829, Judge Upshar, of the Superior Court, observed, in a speech of considerable length, that if Texas should be obtained, which he strongly desired, it would raise the price of slaves, and be a great advantage to the slave-holders in that state. Mr. Gholson also stated in the Virginia assembly, in the year 1832, that the price of slaves fell twenty-five per cent. within two hours after the news was received of the non-importation act which was passed by the Legislature of Louisiana. Yet he believed the acquisition of Texas would raise their price fifty per cent. at least.

\* This idea prevailed so generally in Mississippi, at the period here alluded to, that the elections of one district put the following, among other interrogatories, to their candidates for Congress:—

"Your opinion of the acquisition of Texas, and how—whether by force or treaty—and whether the law preventing the emigration of the Americans is not evidence of apprehension that that province wishes to secede from the Mexican government—and whether, if requested, we ought to give the seceder military assistance—and what would be the effect of the acquisition of Texas upon our planting interest."

## THE TELEGRAPH.

AUGUST 11.

WAR UPON MEXICO—NATIONAL PERVERSITY. There are those for whom it is not enough to show that war is contrary to the spirit of Christianity—a sin against God. Whether it is to receive from them support or opposition, depends very much on the settlement in their own minds of the previous question, whether its tendency will be to add to or subtract from the dollars and cents in their private purses. A humiliating fact, nevertheless not to be denied. Some of these, however, who stop short of the law of God, will go so far as to inquire whether the laws of men are broken—whether there is a violation of most sacred national treaties. For such we have a poser—leaving out, for this time, the question of dollars and cents.

A treaty of peace and friendship has been entered into between the United States and Mexico, which was ratified on the 5th of April, 1831, providing that,

"There shall be firm, inviolable, universal peace, and true and sincere friendship between the United States of America and the United Mexican States, in all the extent of their possessions and territories, and between their people and citizens respectively, without distinction of persons or places."

The Constitution of the United States, Art. VI., provides that,

"All treaties which shall be made under the authority of the United States, shall be the supreme law of the land."

Furthermore, a law of the United States enacted by Congress, April 20, 1818, provides that,

"If any person shall, within the territory &c. of the United States, begin, or set on foot, or provide, or prepare the means for any military expedition or enterprise, to be carried on from thence, against the territory, &c., of a people with whom the United States are at peace, any person so offending shall be deemed guilty of a high misdemeanor," &c.

Now, in view of the above, contemplate the following:

##### From the National Intelligencer.

NATCHITOCHES, June 30, 1836.

"We are likely to have lively times upon the frontier. Gen. Gaines, who is still on the Sabine, has within a few days received despatches from Gen. Rusk, the Texan leader, dated at Guadalupe Victoria, apprising him that the Mexicans are coming down upon him in great force.—Rusk has issued a proclamation, and calls loudly for aid. Gen. Gaines, for reasons best known to himself, has called upon the states of Mississippi, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Louisiana, for a regiment of men each, and talks of executing his old instructions, of crossing into the Mexican territory, and taking possession of Nacogdoches. His plea is that some vagabond Caddoes have committed two or three murders about eighteen miles from Nacogdoches. These murders, if they have been perpetrated, (which is likely,) were committed seventy miles within the Mexican territory! and have happened very apropos if Rusk should be driven eastward. Should this turn out so, and his retreat be upon Nacogdoches, the consequences are obvious. The friends of peace hope that Gen. Gaines will have the good sense to remain where he is: the sort of game he is made

to play for others is well understood here."

And what have we in all this? 1. A solemn treaty of peace and friendship between the United States and Mexico. 2. That treaty declared by the Constitution of the United States to be the supreme law of the land, together with an act of Congress in addition thereto. What next?—Any violation of good faith on the part of Mexico? Who has pretended it? What then? Why, a colony of emigrants from the United States having taken up arms in the Mexican territory, against the Mexican government, and calling for aid from their sympathizing brethren, are responded to not only by scores and hundreds of individual volunteers, who flock in to share the booty, but by a Major General of the United States army, with army at command, marching for the conquest, calling on the governors of the bordering States for co-operation, two of whom\* have already issued their proclamations complying with the predatory requisition. How must all this look to surrounding nations? [Our friends who with us would rather ask how such conduct is reconcilable with justice and the law of love, will be patient and allow us to have a little talk with those who measure human conduct by other standards of duty.] They will brand us as a herd of hollow-hearted, perfidious pirates. Wipe away the foul stigma if we can. What can effect the work? Nothing short of prompt, efficient action on the part of every law-abiding, faith-keeping citizen of this nation. Let a voice go forth from every press—every legislative hall—every council chamber—every town room—every stage, every cottage. Let it sweep over every mountain, and resound thro' every valley from the Penobscot to the Sabine, calling for an immediate abandonment of the murderous crusade. Let our blood-stained hands be washed, and our signatures again be set to the instrument of amity.

\* Of Kentucky and Louisiana.

##### For the Telegraph.

Mr Editor: Permit me, through your columns, to communicate to the friends of Temperance a brief sketch of the character and doings of the late National Temperance Convention, held at Saratoga. As I took no notes, and must depend upon memory for facts and names; and as I left Friday evening before the close of the discussions, my report must be very brief, general and imperfect.

The Convention met on Thursday the 4th inst. at 10 o'clock A. M., and was called to order by E. C. Delavan, Secretary of the New-York State Temperance Society. John Tappan of Boston was called to the chair as President pro tem.—Prayer by Mr Griswold of Saratoga.—The committee appointed to nominate officers, reported,

REUBEN H. WALWORTH, of Saratoga, President.

Bishop STEWART of Quebec, }  
Gov. TRIMBLE of Ohio, } V. Pres.  
Dr. BLACKBURN of Illinois, }

Mr MARSH of Penn., Dr. SMITH of New-York City, and Mr CHILD of Vermont, were among the Secretaries.

The committee appointed to arrange the business of the Convention and report resolutions, brought in from time to time resolutions which elicited much animated debate. This discussion continued thro' Thursday and Friday till 4 o'clock P. M. when the Convention suspended its sitting to give an opportunity to the American Temperance Union to hold its anniversary. Dr. Edwards, the Secretary and Agent of this Union, read extracts from the annual report, from which I should think the next annual report would be quite as interesting as any that have preceded it. Some very good speeches followed the reading of the report.

Notice was then given that the Convention would resume its sitting in the evening, and as quite a number of resolutions remained to be considered, it was expected that the discussion would occupy the most of Saturday.

Between four and five hundred delegates were present from different parts of the Union. The degree of harmony apparent was very encouraging, although a few conservatives raised the note of warning against ultraism, and cautioned the friends of temperance against going too fast or too far.

There has evidently been an advance in the cause since the meeting in Albany, last winter. Not a man dared to rise on the floor and directly advocate the moderate use even of any intoxicating drinks.—Those who opposed the resolution which declared the use of any intoxicating drinks as a beverage to be wrong, commenced

always with a disclaimer that they did not themselves use nor approve the use of any such drinks.

Full reports of the discussions will appear next week from the regular reporters. In the mean time, the friends of the cause may take courage. The work is going onward in our own country, and in other lands.

##### For the Telegraph.

##### MEMOIR OF HARLAN PAGE.

Christian friend, did you ever read the life of Harlan Page? If not you are advised to procure it immediately. It is a valuable book, giving an interesting account of a very useful man. It teaches us what a common christian may do to benefit his fellow men, when his efforts are continued and rightly directed. Mr Page was not above the mediocrity of men either in acquired or natural abilities. He was, however, a devoted christian. He adorned most happily his profession. From the commencement of his christian career, he felt that all he had, together with himself belonged to God. Actuated by this principle, his character was formed—his time, his talents, and his efforts were consecrated to the service of his Master and the good of souls. His eulogy may be written in few words.—He spent his life in doing good.

Individual, personal effort was the grand secret of his success and usefulness. Perhaps the reader of this article has often asked what efforts can I make, aside from prayer, with my limited means and imperfect education to promote the cause of Christ?—Read these Memoirs and then you can answer the question yourself. It is a wrong notion to cherish, that in order to do good, we must possess the first rate talents, the best education and extensive wealth. All these when properly directed may increase our influence, but we may and should do good without them. Because we have not ten talents, shall we refuse to improve the five, or the two which are committed to our charge? This hiding of the Lord's money is a sore evil in the church. It must be removed. The church, or rather each member of the church, must awake to duty on this point. The world is to be converted by the efforts of common christian men.—The history of the last 1800 years proves conclusively that the strength and success of the church lie in the personal exertions of every member. The energies of the church at the present day are paralyzed by apathy and inconsistent views of christian duty. Were all the concealed talents in the church put in action, the empire of darkness would soon be destroyed, truth and righteousness would fill the earth, and the millennial glory of the church commence.

With the spirit by which Mr Page was actuated we are pleased.

1. He seemed to do good for the sake of doing good. His object was not to be seen of men. Heaven's approbation was all he asked—it was all he sought. Many of his efforts for the conversion of individuals were not known till they came forward after conversion to join the church. He labored in secret as well as in public and his heavenly Father rewarded him openly. This trait of character commends itself to those who seem to be very anxious that all they do should be seen of men. Pharisaical conduct is highly injurious to the cause of truth and the welfare of souls.

2. In all his exertions, Mr Page felt an entire dependence upon the agency of the Holy Spirit. Human instrumentality, he knew would be ineffectual without the blessing of God. The burden of his prayer was that this blessing might descend.

3. He fainted not, nor became weary in well-doing. His labors were incessant.—He knew no relaxation from the grand purpose of his life.

4. His humility is highly commendable.—Because he had been useful, he was not puffed up, nor did he feel himself wiser and better than his christian friends. To God was the glory to be given and not to himself.—The scenes of his death-bed showed his ripeness for heaven. His was the death of the righteous. And though dead, he yet speaketh.

PEACE.—According to previous appointment, an address was given in this village last Wednesday evening, by Geo. C. Beckwith, agent of the American Peace Society. Without attempting an abstract we will briefly notice some of the general views and statements presented by the amiable and eloquent speaker.

The cause of peace was as old as Christianity. It glimmered in the prophecies concerning the Prince of Peace—at his advent, it shone forth in full splendor. His sermon on the Mount inculcates peace as a part of his religion. It was maintained as such by his followers, until the time of Constantine who united the peaceable kingdom of Christ with the kingdom of this world. From that time forward, for more than a 1000 years, there was little or no intimation that war was incompatible with Christianity, until the days of Erasmus who lifted his voice against the unchristian practice. Little however was accomplished in his time; yet the subject has not since been utterly lost sight of in Christendom. The society of Friends has uniformly borne testimony against war, and the influence has not been lost. In 1815 a pamphlet was published, written by Mr Worcester of Brighton near Boston, setting forth the inconsistency of

war with Christianity. This pamphlet passed through 12 editions in English, and was translated into three or four other European languages. It is supposed to have had a principal agency in producing the peace societies that were formed simultaneously in this country and in England soon after its appearance. Several societies that have been formed have gone down, other interests having absorbed public attention; the cause in general, however, is now coming up.

Although the subject of peace has secular bearings, the speaker wished at present to call our attention to it as Christians, viewing it as a part of our religion—pre-eminently evangelical. He did not ask Christians to go a crusade of peace over the world exclusive of other doctrines of Christianity. He only asked that it be allowed to keep pace with the march of Christianity, as a part of it. He complained that thus far this had been too much neglected. Of all the religions in the world, ours is emphatically a religion of peace. The Bible is the statute book of peace. The Savior's last command enjoined the preaching of the gospel to every creature. And what was that gospel?—Did it tolerate or sanction a custom that wades in blood, involving every species of vice and crime?

The speaker would not undertake a discussion of the question whether defensive war is justifiable. He hoped, however, that this question would by and by be settled.

He rehearsed several of the commands of the decalogue, showing at the same time that war involves a violation of them all, together with numerous New-Testament injunctions, such as, "Do good to all men"—"Recompense to no man evil for evil."—Christ's sermon on the Mount abolishes all war. He mentioned the sweeping fact that as a general thing, previous to the corruption of the church by Constantine, the followers of Christ utterly refused to bear arms—that rather than enter the army not a few of them suffered martyrdom. Are we then at liberty to pluck out and tear away from the gospel system the principle of peace?—How dare ministers of the gospel take the responsibility of such an omission? They are just as much at liberty to omit at their own discretion the preaching of faith and repentance. It would be an easy matter to show that the gospel requires of us our influence and exertions to exterminate such an enemy of the gospel—such an enemy of man as war.

How are the Mohammedans and pagans to know that Christianity does not justify war? The modern Jews declare that the true Messiah has not come. Their strongest argument in support of this declaration is drawn from the fact that the followers of Jesus are the supporters of war, whereas the prophecies authorize them to expect that the reign of the true Messiah will be a reign of peace. When Wolff, the missionary at Palestine, preached the Christian religion to a Mussulman, he was told in a contemptuous retort that the followers of the Prophet had frequently to interfere, within sight of Calvary, to prevent the followers of Christ from imbruing their hands in each others' blood!

The treatment which the Japanese have formerly experienced from professed Christians [Romanists] made such an impression on their minds that at one time they made it part of their religious duty to trample the cross under their feet periodically, once a year or oftener. Why have our fathers succeeded so ill in their attempts to Christianize the natives of this continent? Why, but that the influence of all that is good and holy in evangelical religion has been neutralized by the belligerent, ferocious conduct of its professors? Judson's difficulties have principally arisen from the wars which a professed Christian nation have waged against the pagans among whom he has been laboring.

The facts presented by the speaker showing the waste which war has made of treasure and of human life, were truly astonishing. They are omitted here, with the hope that ere long we shall have an opportunity of laying them before our readers in a much more amplified form than would be possible at this time.

We do not feel at liberty to close this notice without calling the attention of the friends of peace to a single point touched and left by the agent. He would not enter upon the discussion of the question whether defensive war is justifiable or not. He would leave that question hoping that it would be settled by and by. For such an omission we will not hold the agent responsible more than the Society for which he acts. The truth is, about every efficient member of that Society holds to the doctrine that all war is a rendering evil for evil, and therefore a violation of one of the broadest principles of New-Testament religion.—They hope too, in the language of their agent, that this question will be settled. And which way would they have it turn? Why, if they believe that all war is wrong, it would be preposterous to suppose that they wish to have it decided that any war is right! But how—by what means, is the matter to be brought to an issue? How is the decision which they look for to be obtained? The Society through the month of its agent with great propriety charges upon those ministers who refuse or neglect to preach against war, that they stand under the fearful sin of rending the gospel and withholding fundamental truth which God